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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I do not know of any such representation."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know whether the Government follow any principle in regard to these nominations ? "

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Are there no sections in the Local Boards Act which allow the Government to interfere in cases like this, Sir ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is asking for a legal opinion."

Nomination of Members of the Legislative Council to Municipal Councils and District Boards.

* 1127 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased—

(i) to place before the House an up-to-date statement of the Members of the Legislative Council who have been appointed by Government as Municipal Councillors or as Members of District Boards ; and

(ii) to state—

(a) which of them have been nominated by Government as Presidents of District Boards and when ;

(b) whether any and, if so, what vacancies of such presidents will occur within a year more ; and

(c) whether Government have decided to throw them open for election ?

A.—(i) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to question No. 611 regarding appointments of M.L.C.'s to honorary offices. The following appointments of M.L.C.'s to local bodies have since been made by Government :—

(i) M.R.Ry. W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar Avargal, M.L.C., Member and President, District Board, Ramnad.

(ii) M.R.Ry. P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi Avargal, M.L.C., Member, South Arcot District Board.

(iii) M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib C. D. Appavu Chettiyar Avargal, M.L.C., Member, Salem District Board.

(iv) M.R.Ry. P. Siva Rao Garu, M.L.C., Member, Bellary Municipal Council.

(ii) (a) M.R.Ry. W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar Avargal on 20th October 1928 and Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur on 23rd March 1926.

(b) The Presidentship of the Malabar District Board will fall vacant on 23rd March 1929.

(c) No. The question has not yet been considered.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I enquire what is the criterion followed by the Government in making these nominations, whether it is a sort of party measure or is it based on merit ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" There is no question of its being a party measure at all."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" May I know for what reasons Mr. Siva Rao was nominated for the Municipal Council of Bellary ? Were there no Brahmans on it before ? "

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The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"It was because the Government thought that Mr. Siva Rao's presence on the Bellary Municipal Council would be useful."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—"May I know if Mr. Siva Rao belongs to the depressed classes?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The hon. Member knows to what class Mr. Siva Rao belongs."

Dr B. S. MALLAYYA :—"Is it because Mr. Siva Rao voted for the constitution of the Madras Parliamentary Committee that he was nominated?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"That was not the reason."

Nomination of Mr. W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar as President of the Ramnad District Board.

*1128 Q.—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the District Board of Ramnad passed a unanimous resolution that it should be permitted to elect its own President and communicated the resolution to the Government or to His Excellency the Governor;

(*b*) whether thereafter the Government appointed Mr. W. P. A. Soundarapandia Nadar, M.L.C., of Pattiveeranpatti, Madura district, as a member and President of the district board, Ramnad;

(*c*) what were the reasons for Government not giving effect to the said resolution of the district board;

(*d*) whether the Government considered the propriety of appointing any of the already existing members of the Ramnad District Board as President;

(*e*) what are the reasons for the appointment of Mr. Soundarapandia Nadar as President in preference to existing members of the Ramnad District Board; and

(*f*) what is the age, educational qualification and previous standing and experience of Mr. Soundarapandia Nadar as a member or President of any local or municipal body?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) & (*e*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to clause (*b*) of question No. 838 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 29th November 1928.

(*d*) The Government considered all aspects of the case before coming to a decision.

(*f*) He was a member of the Nilakkottai Taluk Board in the Madura district. The Government have no information as to his age and educational qualifications.

Construction of the road from Cheruvathoor to Malabar.

*1129 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the request of the South Kanara District Board that the cost of Rs. 72,000 for constructing the 8 miles and odd of the coast road from Cheruvathoor to connect it with Malabar should be met from provincial funds; and